THE OUTLOOK: Centenary Takes Aim at the NCAA

For 3½ years, Centenary has been building its golf reputation.

Now it's done. Mention Centenary to anyone who knows college golf and you won't get a smirk.

"We've made more progress than anybody in the country over the past 18 months," says Gent Coach Floyd Horgen. "If we can continue the same level of improvement over the next five months, we have an excellent chance of competing well with everybody that is somebody in the NCAA."

Making the NCAA Tournament is one Gent goal. Winning it is the next.

Oh, there are other matters, such as defending championships in the Trans America Athletic Conference—no easy task since Georgia Southern (11th in the NCAA last year) joined—and in the state of Louisiana.

Two recent meets prove the Gents CAN play. In the All-College Tournament of 1978, Centenary led then defending national champion Oklahoma State until the final holes when the Cowboys rallied.

Then last fall, the Gents played in the Buckeye Fall Classic on defending national champion Ohio State's home course, the Scarlet Course. Ohio State rallied late for a four-shot win over the Gents.

Centenary finished no worse than fourth in any of five fall tournaments, winning the Harvey Pennick Intercollegiate in its finale. The won-loss record was 72-7.

Basically, it will be the same team that played last season playing almost the same schedule.

The focus again will be on **HAL SUTTON**, whose decision to attend Centenary 3½ years ago triggered the emphasis on golf.

He is now a senior, a United States Walker Cupper, one of the national top amateur golfers and winner of 11 collegiate tournaments.

"Many people think he has the opportunity to be the next great player and that includes me," says Horgen.

Sutton was below or even par in 10 of 14 fall rounds—and 18 rounds last spring—and has finished either first or second in seven of the Gents' last 14 tournaments.

Behind him in the fall, there was great balance with 0.7 strokes separating the averages of five players.

Four of them are junior college products brought in by Horgen a year ago—seniors **WADE BOTTS** and **BO JOHNSON** and juniors **MARK NORMAN** and **GUY KENNEN.** The other is junior **JIMMY ODELL,** returning to school after a 1½ year absence.

Norman, Johnson and Botts joined Sutton on the All-Trans America Conference team last spring.

CENTENARY GOLFERS, 1980: (front row, left to right) Guy Kennen, Hal Sutton, Wade Botts, Bo Johnson, (back row) Coach Floyd Horgen, Mark Norman, Jimmy Odell, Danny Trahan. Not pictured: Peter Winkler, Del Gorski.

The team's depth goes further with **PETER WINKLER**, another juco product and one-year veteran; sophomore **DANNY TRAHAN**; and yet another junior college player enrolling this spring, **DEL GORSKI** of Lake County (Ill.) College.

Norman was last year's big surprise and has been most consistent after Sutton. Botts came on strong late last spring; Odell has shown he can score extremely well; and Kennen and Johnson are frustratingly very hot-and-very cold.

Winkler lost his regular spot in the lineup in the fall and Trahan is still developing his game. Gorski, Horgen figures, will make it a tougher battle for the playing position.

Week-to-week consistency is what Horgen seeks. "Hal is consistently around the lead," he points out. "He doesn't win all the time, but he'll be close. We need at least three players, preferably four, with him every time. You can't be dependent on one guy at the level we're playing.

"It's starting to come, though," he adds, "We won at Texas when Hal didn't win.

"The key to our success is believing in our ability and shooting the numbers that our ability dictates. We have to deal with our improvement, be comfortable with it. I saw that happening in the fall."

The schedule will again be coast-to-coast against the nation's best teams. It winds up—hopefully—on that same Scarlet Course at Ohio State for the NCAA Tournament when Centenary aims to finish what it started.

ABOUT CENTENARY GOLF . . .

Check the Centenary golf schedules of the past two years and you will find the Gentlemen have been on the course against almost every top team in collegiate golf.

You will also find that Centenary has played golf from coast to coast.

The trend continues this spring with trips to Florida, Pinehurst (N.C.), the Western Intercollegiate in California, the Southern Intercollegiate in Georgia and a new event for the Gents also in Georgia—the prestigious Chris Schenkel Intercollegiate.

That is hosted by Georgia Southern, a new (and powerful) rival for the Gents in the second-year Trans America Athletic Conference. Centenary defends its TAAC title at "home" on the Huntington Park Golf Course.

It is one of the many courses available to the Gentlemen in the Shreveport-Bossier area, including three private courses. "It's a very good area for golf," says Coach Floyd Horgen. "In most years, golf can be played in Shreveport every day."

. . . CENTENARY COLLEGE . . .

Centenary is the oldest liberal arts college west of the Mississippi River and was established in 1825. Affiliated with the United Methodist Church, it stresses quality education. A key to that is the excellent student to faculty ratio of 12-1, thereby offering the student personal individual attention. And there is a wide variety of social and cultural opportunities for the students.

Just one of the many things Centenary is known for is the College Choir, which recently completed a tour of the Soviet Union and Poland.

In basketball, Centenary annually plays a Division I schedule that includes some of the nation's best teams. With current pro Robert Parish at center, Centenary was ranked in the Top Twenty from 1974-76.

In women's gymnastics, Centenary has won two straight national championships. Two-time All-American Beth Johnson represented the United States in the World University Games.

The men's athletic programs received a tremendous boost a year ago when Centenary joined the Trans America Athletic Conference, a league of 10 Southern schools who compete in basketball, baseball, tennis, golf, cross country and soccer. It is Centenary's first conference affiliation in over 25 years.

The athletic teams are backed financially by an ever-growing Gents Club, including business and civic leaders of the area and Centenary fans everywhere. Athletic department offices are located in the beautiful Gold Dome complex.

. . . AND SHREVEPORT-BOSSIER

Shreveport-Bossier City has a metropolitan population of 348,000 and is the center of the Ark-La-Tex region. It is located in Northwest Louisiana, just 20 miles east of the Texas state line.

The city hosts the Holiday-in-Dixie Festival each April, the Red River Revel in September and the Louisiana State Fair each October.

Shreveport's 50,000-seat State Fair Stadium, formerly home of the Shreveport Steamer in the World Football League, is now the site for major college football, including the annual Independence Bowl. The city also has professional baseball (the Class AA Captains)

Bossier City, located just across the Red River, is known for Barksdale Air Force Base and Louisiana Downs, one of the nation's finest thoroughbred racing plants.

CENTENARY SCHEDULE SPRING GOLF, 1980

SUNTREE INTERCOLLEGIATE
Suntree Country Club-Melbourne, Fla.
Jan. 21-22 (Mon.-Tues.) — 54 holes

LAMAR INVITATIONAL
Pinewood Country Club-Beaumont, Texas
Feb. 18-19 (Mon.-Tues.) — 54 holes

SEMINOLE INTERCOLLEGIATE
Seminole Golf Club-Tallahassee, Fla.
Feb. 29-Mar. 2 (Fri.-Sun.) — 54 holes

PINEHURST INVITATIONAL
Pinehurst No. 2-Pinehurst, N.C.
March 11-13 (Tues.-Thu.) — 54 holes

MORRIS WILLIAMS INVITATIONAL
Morris Williams Golf Course-Austin, Tex.
March 28-30 (Fri.-Sun.) — 54 holes

WESTERN INTERCOLLEGIATE
Pastiempo Golf Course-Santa Cruz, Calif.
April 1-3 (Tues.-Thu.) — 54 holes

TRANS AMERICA CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS
Huntington Park Golf Course-Shreveport, La.
April 21-22 (Mon.-Tues.) — 54 holes

CHRIS SCHENKEL INTERCOLLEGIATE INVITATIONAL
Forest Heights Country Club-Statesboro, Ga.
April 25-27 (Fri.-Sun.) — 54 holes

SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE
Athens Country Club-Athens, Georgia
May 1-3 (Thu.-Sat.) — 54 holes

NCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS
Scarlet Course, Ohio State Univ.-Columbus, Ohio
May 27-30 (Tues.-Fri.) — 72 holes

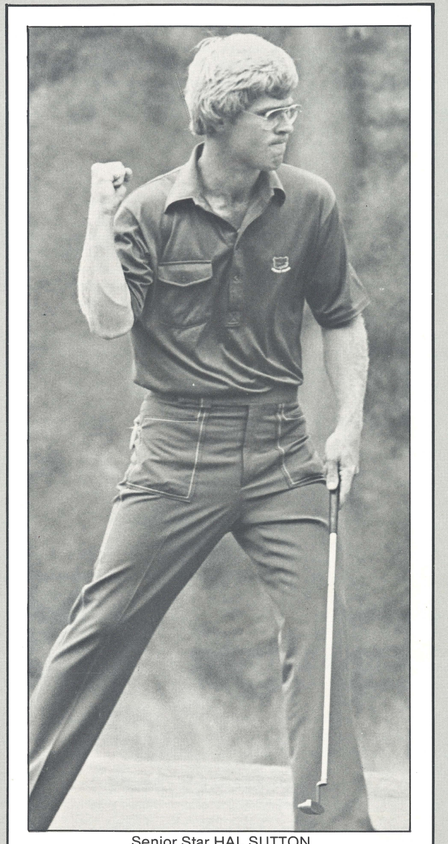
CENTENARY COLLEGE QUICK FACTS

LOCATION: Shreveport, Louisiana
FOUNDED: 1825
PRESIDENT: Dr. Donald A. Webb
DEAN: Dr. Dorothy Gwin
ENROLLMENT: 960
NICKNAME: Gentlemen
COLORS: Cardinal and White
CONFERENCE: Trans America (NCAA Division I)
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR-GOLF COACH: Floyd Horgen
ATHLETIC PHONE: (318) 869-5275
ATHLETIC ADDRESS: P.O. Box 4188, Shreveport, LA 71104

Cover Photo by Bill Creighton, Charleston (S.C.) Evening Post

"Centenary is an Equal Opportunity Educational Institution"

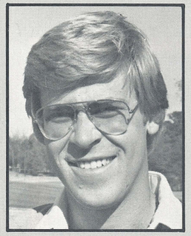
CENTENARY



Senior Star HAL SUTTON

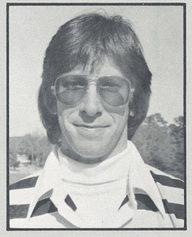
1980 GOLF

HAL SUTTON
Senior, 6-1, 190
Shreveport, La.



He helped the United States team beat Great Britain in the Walker Cup matches played at Muirfield, Scotland, in May, 1979 . . . his trip there was made in an agonizing decision to forego a possible invitation to the NCAA Tournament . . . one of America's premier amateur and collegiate golfers for three years, he aims to build on an already impressive record . . . 11 collegiate wins to date, including the Jim Corbett last fall . . . also second eight times . . . he averaged 71.0 strokes for 14 fall rounds, 10 times matching or bettering par, including a low of 66 in the All-College . . . second in the Buckeye Fall Classic and the Harvey Pennick . . . averaged 73.3 in 27 rounds last year and won the Lamar and Trans America Conference titles with a second in the Border Olympics . . . won the Western Amateur and Rice Planters Amateur last summer, second in the Northeast Amateur . . . two-time winner of the Dixie Amateur in Miami, Fla., the first repeater in that event in 20 years . . . second in the North-South Amateur at Pinehurst in '78 . . . "He's worked harder on his game the past few months than ever before during his college career," says Floyd Horgen. "He's made excellent progress in all areas of his game. He's a physically strong player. It's the type strength you'll see in the great players in the near future . . . He's a very positive thinker and very mature. He's a great college player and he can be even greater" . . . a product of Northwood High and former Louisiana state junior champ . . . a Business major . . . born April 28, 1958

DANNY TRAHAN
Sophomore, 6-2, 185
New Orleans, La.

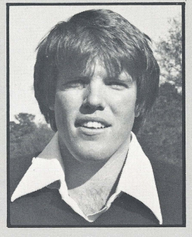


"He made excellent progress as a freshman," says Floyd Horgen, "and was very close to getting in the lineup in May. But he did not play much during the summer and allowed the gap between himself and his teammates to widen" . . . He played in one fall tournament, the Morton Braswell, and did not fare well . . . two older brothers were college golf All-Americans—Murphy at LSU-New Orleans and Sam at Brevard (Fla.) JC under Horgen . . . a baseball and golf standout at O. Perry Walker High School . . . his tournament wins include New Orleans city junior tourneys in 1975 and 1976 and the New Orleans Insurance Classic in '76 . . . he was fourth in the state junior tournament and his prep team was second in the state in '77 . . . "He's an excellent athlete," says Horgen. "He hits the ball as long as anyone in college golf at times. He has the tools to be outstanding, but he needs to learn the price of success" . . . a Business major . . . born Nov. 20, 1959.

BO JOHNSON
Senior, 5-10, 155
Muscatine, Iowa

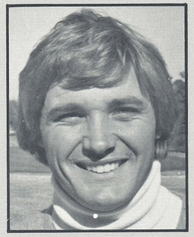
One of the Gents' top players last spring but slipped out of the lineup last fall . . . his spring average for 27 rounds was 75.6 and he finished third in the Louisiana Intercollegiate won by Centenary and was All-Trans America Conference with a fourth place . . . played only two fall tournaments, averaging 73.5 strokes a round and shooting a low round of 68 in the All-College . . . "He's an excellent athlete with the ability to shoot low numbers," says Horgen. "He's working on his swing and making improvement. He knows what to do, but hasn't been able to put it together. When he does, he's gonna be tough to beat" . . . the Iowa Amateur winner last summer . . . transfer from St. Petersburg (Fla.) JC . . . runnerup in Florida state juco tourney in '78 . . . first name is Peter . . . a Business major . . . born April 21, 1958.

MARK NORMAN
Junior, 6-3, 200
Edina, Minn.



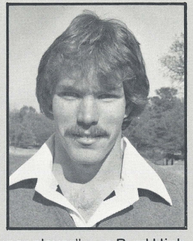
Most pleasant surprise of last year after his transfer from McLellan (Tex.) JC . . . averaged 75.5 strokes for 27 spring rounds and 72.8 in 14 fall rounds—both second on the team . . . low round of 69 in last fall's Harvey Pennick when he tied for second place . . . fifth in the Buckeye Fall Classic and made All-Trans America Conference with a third place finish last spring . . . third in '78 All-College Tournament . . . "He's our most improved player over a year's time," says Horgen. "He's big and strong with much better shot-making ability now. He's starting to realize how good he can be and his potential is tremendous" . . . helped McLellan to second place in '78 national juco tourney . . . Junior "Player of the Year" in Minnesota in '76 . . . also an outstanding high school basketball player . . . a Business major . . . born Nov. 21, 1957.

PETER WINKLER
Junior, 5-8, 155
Atlanta, Ga.



A regular last spring when he averaged 76.5 strokes for 24 rounds, but he played only one tournament in the fall . . . had four rounds of 70 last year . . . finished ninth in Trans America Conference tournament and fourth in '78 Morton Braswell . . . "He started strong last year, then ended up inconsistent and failed to make progress at the same level as some of the others," says Horgen. "That pattern continued in the fall, but he appears back on an improvement pattern and is starting to putt well again" . . . a second team All-American for Brevard JC in '78 . . . former Georgia state junior champ and All-State in Florida juco league . . . "He hits the ball long for his size and is a super sand player," says Horgen. "He can be a factor" . . . a Business major . . . born July 12, 1959.

JIMMY ODELL
Junior, 6-2, 175
Shreveport, La.



Back with the Gents after a 1½-year layoff . . . had a good fall season with a 72.8 average for 11 rounds . . . had a low round of 68 in the Jim Corbett and finished third in the Morton Braswell . . . one of team's top players in his first Gent stint, finishing fourth in the '77 Braswell and leading the Harvey Pennick after one round . . . "He's a great natural talent," says Horgen. "He has great ball-hitting ability and hits some iron shots as well as the touring pros. His game around the green is not at the same level as his ball-striking ability, but he's working hard on improving it. He has the potential to be a super player" . . . a Byrd High product and three-time participant in the state prep tournament . . . his father, Digger Odell, is the pro at Huntington Park Golf Course. . . a Health and P.E. major . . . born Dec. 23, 1958.

1979 Fall Results

ALL-COLLEGE TOURNAMENT, Oklahoma City, Sept. 17-19
1. Oklahoma State 838 (won playoff). 2. Oral Roberts 838. 3. New Mexico 846. **4. CENTENARY** 847. 5. Colorado 850. 6. Oklahoma and Texas (tie) 858. 8. TCU 860. 9. Tulsa 863. 10. Wichita State 867 . . . 18 teams entered.

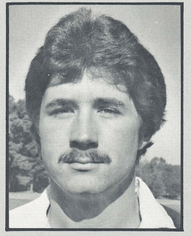
BUCKEYE FALL CLASSIC, Columbus, Ohio, Sept. 28-30
1. Ohio State 877. **2. CENTENARY** 881. 3. Houston 897. 4. Florida 902. 5. Texas A&M 903. 6. Oral Roberts 907. 7. Ohio State Gray and Southern Cal (tie) 912. 9. LSU and Alabama (tie) 913 . . . 18 teams entered.

JIM CORBETT INVITATIONAL, Baton Rouge, Oct. 10-12
1. Houston 854. **2. CENTENARY** 859. 3. Florida 861. 4. Oklahoma State 864. 5. Clemson 874. 6. (tie) Oral Roberts and Texas A&M 875. 8. (tie) Alabama, LSU and Florida State 883 . . . 16 teams entered.

MORTON BRASWELL CLASSIC, Shreveport, Oct. 21-22
1. Houston 715. 2. Oral Roberts 744. **3. CENTENARY** 747. 4. Oklahoma State 748. 5. LSU 758. 6. Texas A&M 760. 7. North Texas State 769. 8. Lamar 770. 9. Texas 772. 10. (tie) SMU, Oklahoma City and Mississippi 797.

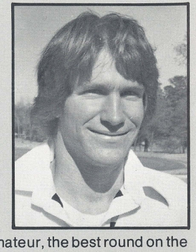
HARVEY PENNICK INTERCOLLEGIATE, Austin, Tex., Nov. 5-7
1. CENTENARY 1070. 2. Texas 1074. 3. Texas A&M 1080. 4. TCU 1092. 5. Houston 1097. 6. Lamar 1108.7. SMU 1114. 8. Oklahoma 1128. 9. New Mexico State 1129. 10. McNeese State 1133 . . . 20 teams entered.

GUY KENNEN
Junior, 6-1, 180
Clearwater, Fla.



"He has the all-around game to be an outstanding player," says Floyd Horgen. "He looks like a super prospect at times, but he's inconsistent" . . . averaged 76.4 strokes for 24 spring rounds . . . best finish was fifth in the Lamar Invitational . . . then had five par or below par rounds out of 14 fall rounds and a 73.07-stroke average . . . finished fifth in the Morton Braswell, then helped the Gents win the Harvey Pennick . . . "He had two solid tournaments back-to-back, which was encouraging," says Horgen. "He has made progress with his swing" . . . a junior college All-American at Brevard, finishing third in the national tournament . . . All-State in Florida and finished eighth in the Pinehurst Invitational in '78 . . . a Psychology major . . . born March 1, 1959.

WADE BOTTS
Senior, 5-11, 145
Sanford, Fla.



He came on strong last spring to finish in the No. 2 position and continued his solid play in the fall . . . averaged 76.8 strokes for 15 spring rounds and made All-Trans America Conference with a fourth place finish . . . had a 73.14 average for 14 rounds last fall and finished seventh in the Buckeye Classic and eighth in the Harvey Pennick when he had an opening round 68 . . . "He's worked hard since coming here to develop his golf swing and he's improved consistently," says Horgen. "He's an excellent putter and a hard-nosed winner" . . . shot an outstanding 292 at Sawgrass in the Florida Amateur, the best round on the final day . . . transfer from Seminole (Fla.) JC . . . fifth in the Florida state juco tournament as a freshman . . . a Business major . . . born March 8, 1958.

DEL GORSKI
Sophomore, 5-8, 165
Lake Villa, Ill.

Transfer from College of Lake County (Ill.) who came to Centenary at midterm . . . he was the winner of the national junior college fall invitational and also won the Highland "36" and Danville Invitationals . . . fifth in the Illinois state amateur in 1978 and third in the Chicago District Golf Assn. junior open the same summer . . . "he's an excellent putter with a background of good numbers against some good players," says Horgen. "He should create a very competitive situation for playing positions" . . . a Health and Physical Education major . . . born Feb. 4, 1960.

FLOYD HORGEN
Athletic Director—Golf Coach

Building championship golf teams is nothing new for Floyd Horgen.

It took him less than a year to do it at Centenary College, where he became golf coach and athletic director in June, 1978.

At Brevard Junior College in Cocoa, Fla., Horgen guided four national championship golf teams—the last three in succession from 1976-78. There was also one second place finish in the national tournament and five state titles in the strong Florida junior college league.

Horgen is a recognized teaching golf professional . . . and the emphasis should be placed on "teaching."

Much of his time is spent with the Gent golfers—on the course, on the driving range, viewing technique films and simply talking the game to create the proper mental approach.

He does not limit his teaching to Centenary players, often giving lessons—and counsel—to other golf enthusiasts.

That could be classified under "community involvement," which is something Horgen has placed as a priority in the aim to provide Centenary a first class total athletic program.

To that end, he guided a fund-raising effort that doubled the membership and financial support given by the Gents Club, Centenary's booster organization for athletics.

He implemented a plan to make Centenary Athletics self-supporting, placing emphasis on season ticket sales, promotion and special days.

And then there are the thousand and one other details that require the athletic director's attention. Add it up and you've got a busy man.

Horgen expects the same type of success he's had in his coaching career. As head basketball coach at McArthur High in Hollywood, Fla., for four years (1963-67), his teams were 80-27.

Moving to Brevard, he was an assistant basketball coach for six seasons in which the teams had a 147-24 record.

And with the team success in golf came juco All-American honors for 20 of his players in eight years and 26 scholarships to four-year universities in the last five years.

Horgen says he is "an eternal optimist," which is why he believes Centenary golf—and Centenary athletics—will continue to prosper.

"My job is to help develop an atmosphere where excellence can be created," he says. "The community has shown its willingness to support the program and there is potential to build an even stronger Gents Club and give us quality in every sport. We have to sell the people on the fact that it is their program."

PERSONAL INFORMATION: Ht. 6-3. Wt. 215. Born Sept. 5, 1936, at Warren, Minn. Raised and attended high school in Crookston, Minn. Bachelor's degree in education from University of Miami (Fla.), 1959. A pitcher in baseball at Miami. Masters' degree in education from Ohio University, 1963. Married to former Paula Stringfellow. Four children—Donna, 17, (a Centenary student); David, 14; Joanna, 7; and Linda, 1½.